

Serial No. 10/031,941 - - - - 2

--A B S T R A C T

A switching system comprises at least one fused switch unit (10) with a fuse link (20) which can be switched on and off, having a make switch and a break switch and a blocking apparatus, for keeping the circuit open. A combined switching and blocking apparatus (30) is provided, with a blocking element (32) having at least one blocking rod (33) for each fused switch unit (10) being mounted on an operating lever (31) of the switch. An interlocking element (35) having an opening (36) is provided for each fused switch unit (10) and can be switched to and fro in the fused switch unit (10) together with the associated fuse link (20). A blocking rod (33) can be inserted into the opening (36) in the interlocking element (35) only when the fuse link (20) is in its switched-on position. The operating lever (31) of the switch can be switched to close the circuit only when each blocking rod (33) can be inserted into the associated opening (36) in the interlocking element (35). A fuse link (20) cannot be moved to its switched-off position when the blocking rod (33) is inserted into the opening (36) in the interlocking element (35).--

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 1, in lines 1 and 2 of the English language translation, please delete the title, and insert the following new title, new paragraph, and new heading:

**--SWITCHING SYSTEM WITH A
COMBINED SWITCHING AND BLOCKING DEVICE**

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